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#### ANNUAL AUDITED REPORT **FORM X-17A-5** PART III

### **FACING PAGE**

Information Required of Brokers and Dealers Pursuant to Section 17 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 17a-5 Thereunder

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING	10/01/2003 MM/DD/Y		DING 12	/31/2004 MM/DD/YY
A. RE	GISTRANT IDEN	TIFICATION		7.2.2
NAME OF BROKER-DEALER: DESC	ap Securit	ies, Inc.		OFFICIAL USE ONLY
ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BU	V	,		FIRM I.D. NO.
444 Madison Avenue -	- 4th Floor	, .·A		
	(No. and Stre	et)		
. New York	New York		100	22
(City)	(Stat	e)	(Zip (	Code)
NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF I Robert M. Fine,	PERSON TO CONTAC President	T IN REGARD TO	THIS REPOR	T 546-6001
			(Are	a Code – Telephone Number)
B. AC	COUNTANT IDEN	NTIFICATION		
INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT  Kamler, Lewis, and	-	·		
One Linden Place	Great Nec	k New	York	11021
(Address)	(City)	TO ECCED	(State)	(Sp Code)
CHECK ONE:  Certified Public Accountant  Public Accountant  Accountant not resident in Un	mited States or any of it	THOMSON FINANCIAL SE POSSESSIONS.		RECEIVED COM
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	FOR OFFICIAL U	JE UNLT		

\*Claims for exemption from the requirement that the annual report be covered by the opinion of an independent public accountant must be supported by a statement of facts and circumstances relied on as the basis for the exemption. See Section 240.17a-5(e)(2)

SEC 1410 (06-02)

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#### OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, Rol	pert Fine	, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of
	ledge and belief the accompanying financial scap Securities, Inc.	statement and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of
of Dec	cember 31	, 2004 are true and correct. I further swear (or affirm) that
neither th	ne company nor any partner, proprietor, princ	ipal officer or director has any proprietary interest in any account
	solely as that of a customer, except as follow	
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
		Signature
		President
/-	and a	Title
Ant	Kon (laterata)	ANTHONY ADIPIETRO
	Negary Public	No. 01 AD6033069
Th:	** **	Qualified in Queens County
	rt ** contains (check all applicable boxes): Cacing Page.	Commission Expires Nov. 6, 200 5
	tatement of Financial Condition.	
<b>☒</b> (c) S	tatement of Income (Loss).	•
	tatement of Changes in Financial Condition.	
	tatement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity	
	tatement of Changes in Liabilities Subordina	ted to Claims of Creditors.
	Computation of Net Capital.	·
	Computation for Determination of Reserve Re	
	nformation Relating to the Possession or Con	
٠,		nation of the Computation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-3 and the e Requirements Under Exhibit A of Rule 15c3-3.
		udited Statements of Financial Condition with respect to methods of
	onsolidation.	udited Statements of Financial Condition with respect to methods of
	onsolitation. In Oath or Affirmation.	
` ′	a copy of the SIPC Supplemental Report.	
		ound to exist or found to have existed since the date of the previous audit.
	A report on the internal	
		portions of this filing, see section 240.17a-5(e)(3).
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DESCAP SECURITIES, INC.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY

INFORMATION REQUIRED BY RULE 17a-5 OF

THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

AND INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

AND REPORT ON

INTERNAL ACCOUNTING CONTROL

DECEMBER 31, 2004

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION REQUIRED BY RULE 17a-5 OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION AND INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT AND REPORT ON

### INTERNAL ACCOUNTING CONTROL DECEMBER 31, 2004

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Certified Public Accountants

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Directors and Shareholder Descap Securities, Inc.

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of Descap Securities, Inc. as of December 31, 2004, and the related statements of income, changes in shareholders' equity and cash flows for the period October 1, 2003 through December 31, 2004 that you are filing pursuant to rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Descap Securities, Inc. at December 31, 2004 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the period October 1, 2003 through December 31, 2004 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Famler, Lewis & Noveman LLP

Great Neck, New York February 1, 2005

## DESCAP SECURITIES, INC. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION DECEMBER 31, 2004

#### **ASSETS**

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 268,804
Marketable Securities Inventory, at Market Value	49,534,920
Investments in Non-Readily Marketable Securities, at Estimated Fair Value	203,300
Deferred Income Taxes	200,000
Deposits with Clearing Houses	225,000
Property and Equipment-Net (Note 2)	569,450
Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets	227,150
	\$ <u>51,228,624</u>

#### LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDER'S EQUITY

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Marketable Securities Sold Not Yet Purchased, at Market Value	\$ 24,728,259
Due to Clearing Houses	14,685,698
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses (Note 3)	673,929
Due to Parent Company	825,500
• •	40,913,386

Commitments (Notes 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13)

Shareholder's Equity:

Common Stock, Class A, \$.001 par value; 500,000 shares	
authorized, 175,500 issued and outstanding	176
Common Stock, Class B, \$.001 par value;	
500,000 shares authorized, 5,800 issues and outstanding	5
Paid-in Capital	1,574,231
Retained Earnings	8,740,826
	<u>10,315,238</u>
	\$ <u>51,228,624</u>

## DESCAP SECURITIES, INC. STATEMENT OF INCOME FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2003 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2004

Revenues, Profits and Losses:       \$22,909,589         Trading profits realized       \$22,909,589         Unrealized trading gains       189,411         Interest       2,884,114         Placement agent fees       692,629         26,675,743
Unrealized trading gains189,411Interest2,884,114Placement agent fees692,629
Interest       2,884,114         Placement agent fees       692,629
Placement agent fees 692,629
20,0/3,/43
Expenses:
Compensation, payroll taxes and benefits 16,023,979
Interest 2,189,037
Clearing charges 1,119,405
Wire quote services 720,825
Professional fees 440,372
Commissions 347,410
Rent and occupancy costs 538,487
Travel and entertainment 335,088
Insurance 182,619
Telephone 87,704
Office 145,882
Depreciation 177,118
D 14 C
Regulatory fees 62,793
Local transportation 63,221
Advertising 27,392
Memberships 7,481
Equipment rental 6,418
Professional education 20,803
Automobile expense and leases 39,409
Repairs and maintenance 7,432
Utilities 32,473
Bank charges 3,008
Miscellaneous111,448
22,689,804
Income Before Provision for Income Taxes 3,985,939
Provision For Income Taxes (Note 7) 1,975,000
1.975,000
Net Income \$ <u>2,010,939</u>

### DESCAP SECURITIES, INC. STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2003 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2004

		Clas	on Stock ss A ar Value	Clas	on Stock ss B r Value	Paid-In	Retained	Shareholders'
		<u>Shares</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Shares</u>	Amount	<u>Capital</u>	<b>Earnings</b>	Equity
	Balance, October 1, 2003	175,500	\$176	7,400	\$7	\$6,607,346	\$6,729,887	\$13,337,416
	Net Income						2,010,939	2,010,939
	Purchase of 1600 Class B Shares (Note 4) Contributions of Capital			(1,600)	(2)	(167,458)		(167,460)
,	(Note 4)					1,589,000		1,589,000
	Dividends paid					(6,454,657)		(6,454,657)
	Balance, December 31, 2004	<u>175,500</u>	\$ <u>176</u>	5,800	\$ <u>5</u>	\$ <u>1,574,231</u>	\$ <u>8,740,826</u>	\$ <u>10,315,238</u>

### DESCAP SECURITIES, INC. STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2003 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2004

Cash Flows From Operating Activities:		
Net Income	\$	2,010,939
Adjustments to reconcile net income to cash:		,
Depreciation		177,118
Unrealized gains on trading positions		(189,411)
Deferred income taxes		(200,000)
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Increase in marketable securities inventory, at market value	(	(49,345,509)
Decrease in due from clearing houses		5,639,875
Increase in due to clearing houses		14,685,698
Decrease in prepaid expenses and other assets		42,097
Decrease in accounts payable and accrued liabilities		(3,606,998)
Increase in securities sold, not yet purchased, at market value		24,728,259
Net Cash Used By Operating Activities		(6,057,932)
Cash Flows From Investing Activities:		
Acquisition of property and equipment		(54,977)
Acquisition of property and equipment Acquisition of investments in non-readily marketable securities, at estimated fair value		(203,300)
Net Cash Used By Investing Activities		(258,277)
The case of the ca		120012
Cash Flows From Financing Activities:		
Capital contributions		1,589,000
Dividends paid		(6,454,657)
Purchase of Class B Common Stock		(167,460)
Increase in due to parent company		825,500
Net Cash Used By Financing Activities		<u>(4,207,617)</u>
Net Decrease in Cash		(10 522 926)
Net Decrease in Cash	,	(10,523,826)
Cash, beginning of period		10,792,630
Cash, end of period		\$ <u>268,804</u>
Supplemental Disclosure of Cash Flows Information		
Cash Paid During the Period For:		
Interest		\$ <u>2,189,037</u>
morest		Ψ <u>2,107,037</u>
Taxes		\$ <u>1,989,908</u>

### DESCAP SECURITIES, INC. NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004

#### Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### Business Organization and Description

On March 31, 1985, Descap Securities, Inc. (the "Company") began operations in the State of New York. The Company is a broker-dealer registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and is a member of the National Association of Securities Dealers ("NASD"). The Company does not carry customer accounts and does not process or safe-keep customer funds or securities and is therefore exempt from Rule 15c3-3 of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

In 1999, the Company expanded its operations by establishing a structured finance services group. The business activities of this group include placement agent and underwriting services, subordinate financing, the arrangement of warehouse lines of credit and small and start-up specialty finance company consulting. The activities described above have been reviewed by the NASD and are within the scope of the business activities allowable accordingly to the Company's NASD "Membership Agreement" dated March 29, 1999.

On May 14, 2004, First Albany Companies Inc. (the "Parent") acquired 100% of the Company's outstanding shares for \$25 million in cash and 549,476 shares of the Parent's common stock, plus future consideration based on financial performance. As part of the acquisition, First Albany agreed to grant restricted stock awards for a total of 270,843 shares to certain Descap employees, which will vest ratably over a three year period.

#### Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Company considers all highly liquid instruments purchased with maturities of less than three months at the date of purchase to be cash equivalents.

#### Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The carrying amounts of the Company's cash, marketable securities, accounts payable and accrued expenses approximate their respective fair values at December 31, 2004.

#### Securities Transactions

Marketable security positions, which consist primarily of institutional mortgage-backed securities and asset-backed securities, are valued at the lower of cost or market. Securities not readily marketable are valued at fair value as determined by management.

#### Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are carried at cost. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method at rates adequate to allocate the cost of applicable assets over their expected useful lives. The cost of maintenance and repairs is charged to income as incurred. Significant renewals and betterments are capitalized.

## DESCAP SECURITIES, INC. NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) DECEMBER 31, 2004

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

#### Impairment of Long-Lived Assets

The Company investigates potential impairments of its long-lived assets when evidence exists that events or changes in circumstances may have made recovery of an asset's carrying value unlikely. An impairment loss is recognized when the sum of the expected undiscounted future net cash flows is less than the carrying amount of the asset. No such losses have been identified.

#### Revenue Recognition

Generally accepted accounting principles require that trading profits and losses, commission income and related expenses be recorded on a trade date basis unless the difference between trade date and settlement date is immaterial. Agent placement fees are recognized in the period earned.

#### **Income Taxes**

The Company's operations are included in the consolidated Federal tax return filed by the Parent. The calculation of the income tax provision is determined under a Company policy which provides that the Company's current and deferred taxes are calculated on a separate return basis. The income tax provision has been prepared as if the Company were a stand-alone entity and filed a separate Federal tax return. Federal tax expenses are allocated to the Company with any corresponding payable or receivable included in due to Parent. The Company files its own state and local tax returns.

Income taxes are accounted for under the asset and liability method of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 109, Accounting for Income Taxes ("SFAS No. 109"). Under SFAS No. 109, deferred income tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statements carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax basis using enacted tax rates in effect for the year in which the differences are expected to affect taxable income. Valuation allowances are established when necessary to reduce deferred tax assets to the amounts expected to be realized.

#### Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Changes in such estimates may affect amounts reported in future periods.

## DESCAP SECURITIES, INC. NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) DECEMBER 31, 2004

#### Note 2 - Property and Equipment - Net

Property and equipment consist of the following at December 31, 2004:

Furniture and fixtures	\$ 95,486
Office equipment	130,134
Computer equipment and software	153,494
Leasehold improvements	463,200
	842,314
Less: Accumulated depreciation	272,864
•	\$569 450

Depreciation charged to income was \$ 177,118 during the period October 1, 2003 through December 31, 2004.

#### Note 3 - Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses

Accounts payable and accrued expenses consist of the following at December 31, 2004:

Compensation and payroll taxes	\$ 586,462
Profit sharing plan (Note 4)	11,499
Professional fees	30,000
Other	<u>45,968</u>
	\$ 673,929

#### Note 4 - Shareholders' Equity

During the period October 1, 2003 to May 14, 2004, the Company purchased and retired 1,600 shares of its class B stock for an aggregate amount of \$167,460. These shares were purchased from former employees. In addition, the three majority shareholders contributed to Paid-In-Capital an aggregate of \$1,589,000 during the period October 1, 2003 to May 14, 2004.

The Board of Directors of the Company declared and paid a special dividend of \$6,454,657 to its shareholders of record on May 14, 2004.

Subsequently, on May 14, 2004, the Parent acquired 100% of the Company's outstanding shares (See Note 1).

#### Note 5 - Retirement Plan

The Company has a qualified non-contributory profit sharing plan, the funding of which is subject to the discretion of the Board of Directors. Total contributions for the period ended December 31, 2004 of \$86,499 are to be paid by the due date of the Company's federal corporate income tax return. Additionally, a 401(k) plan is offered which does not call for Company matching.

Effective with the sale of the Company's stock to the Parent, the Company's profit sharing plan is expected to be integrated into the Parent's plan. The details of any such integration has not yet been finalized as of the date of this report. The 401(k) plan is continuing as of December 31, 2004.

KAMLER, LEWIS & NOREMAN LLP

-8-

Certified Public Accountants

## DESCAP SECURITIES, INC NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) DECEMBER 31, 2004

#### Note 6 - Leases

The Company entered into an operating lease for its office space in New York City, which expires in June 2009. The lease requires minimum annual rentals and escalations for increases in real estate taxes. In addition, the Company entered into a lease for office space in Great Neck, NY, which expires in March 2006. Future minimum annual rentals under these leases are approximately as follows:

Year Ending	
December 31,	<u>Amount</u>
2005	\$ 456,000
2006	438,000
2007	440,000
2008	450,000
2009	222,000
	\$2,006,000

Rent expense, including occupancy costs, for the period October 31, 2003 through December 31, 2004 was \$538,487.

#### Note 7 - Provision For Income Taxes

The provision for income taxes consists of:

	Current	<u>Deferred</u>	<u>Total</u>
Federal	\$ 1,325,500	\$ (100,000)	\$1,225,500
New York State and other states	359,600	(28,000)	331,600
New York City	448,900	(31,000)	417,900
	\$ <u>2,134,000</u>	\$ <u>(159,000</u> )	\$ <u>1,975,000</u>

The deferred income taxes primarily arise from tax depreciation in excess of book depreciation, and recognition of deferred compensation for books from the vesting of the restricted stock (see Note 8), not recognized for income tax purposes.

#### Note 8 - Restricted Stock

In connection with the sale of the Company's stock to First Albany Companies, Inc., the Parent issued 270,843 shares of its restricted stock to the former stockholders of the Company. The shares vest ratably in three equal annual installments beginning one year from the date of the grant. During the vesting period, the participants have voting rights and receive dividends but the shares may not be sold, assigned, transferred, pledged or otherwise encumbered. Additionally, granted but unvested shares are forfeited upon termination of employment, unless certain retirement criteria are met.

The fair value of the restricted shares on the date of the grant is amortized ratably over the vesting period. Compensation expense of \$633,223 was recognized for the restricted stock for the period October 1, 2003 through December 31, 2004.

#### DESCAP SECURITIES, INC NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) DECEMBER 31, 2004

#### Note 9 - Related Party Transaction

The Parent charged the Company \$519,572 and \$14,288 for interest and commitment fees, respectively, for the loan taken out by the Parent for the purchase of the Company's stock (see Note 1).

#### Note 10 - Concentrations of Credit Risk

As a securities broker and dealer, the Company is engaged in various securities trading and brokerage activities servicing a diverse group of domestic and foreign corporations, institutional and individual investors. A substantial portion of the Company's transactions are executed with and on behalf of institutional investors including other brokers and dealers, mortgage brokers, commercial banks, U.S. governmental agencies, mutual funds and other financial institutions. The Company's exposure to credit risk associated with the nonperformance of these customers in fulfilling their contractual obligations pursuant to securities transactions, can be directly impacted by volatile securities markets, credit markets and regulatory changes.

#### Note 11 - Clearing Broker

In addition, the Company has a minimum \$3,000,000 net capital requirements with its clearing broker as well as certain other requirements. If the Company is subject to an Event of Default (as defined in the agreement), the agreement will be terminated.

#### Note 12 - Net Capital Requirements

The Company is subject to the Securities and Exchange Commission Uniform Net Capital Rule (15c3-1), which requires the maintenance of minimum net capital and that the ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital, both as defined, shall not exceed 15:1. The rule also provides that capital may not be withdrawn or cash dividends paid if the resulting net capital ratio would exceed 10:1. At December 31, 2004, the Company had net capital of \$6,850,206, which was \$6,750,206 in excess of its required net capital of \$100,000. The Company's ratio of Aggregate Indebtedness to Net Capital was to .22 to 1.

#### Note 13 - Contingencies

The Company is a party to various claims in the ordinary course of business. Management believes that the aggregate impact of such claims, if any, will not have a material impact on the financial position, results of operations, or liquidity of the Company.

The Company has in place 36 month employment contracts with the three former majority shareholders. In aggregate, the contracts call for "Annual Base Salaries" of \$850,000, and "Annual Bonuses" of \$1,650,000 paid quarterly.

Additionally, there is an "Earnout" provision for the aforementioned 36 month period which calls for monies to be allocated annually to the former shareholders of the Company. If Descap's pre-tax earnings (measured before "Annual Base Salaries" and "Annual Bonuses") exceeds: 1) \$2.5 million, the former shareholders receive 40% of earnings (measured after "Annual Base Salaries" and "Annual Bonuses"); 2) \$12.5 million, they receive 50% of such earnings.

## DESCAP SECURITIES, INC NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) DECEMBER 31, 2004

#### Note 13 - Contingencies continued

The Company is exempt from the provisions of Rule 15c3-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, in that the Company's activities are limited to those set forth in the conditions from exemption appearing in paragraph (k)(2)(ii) of the Rule.



Certified Public Accountants

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION REQUIRED BY RULE 17a-5 OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Board of Directors and Shareholder Descap Securities, Inc.

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Descap Securities, Inc. for the period October 1, 2003 through December 31, 2004 and have issued our report thereon dated February 1, 2005. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The information contained in Schedule I on the following page is presented for purposes of additional analysis, and is supplementary information required by Rule 17a-5 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Kamler, Lewis & Noveman LLP

Great Neck, New York February 1, 2005

## OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION DECEMBER 31, 2004

#### Schedule I

Net Capital:	
Total shareholders' equity per statement of	
financial condition	\$ <u>10,315,238</u>
Deductions - nonallowable assets:	
Property and equipment, net	569,450
Other assets	630,450
Total Nonallowable assets	1,199,900
Haircuts on trading securities	2,265,132
Total Net Capital (Note 12)	\$ <u>6,850,206</u>
Aggregate Indebtedness:	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ <u>1,499,429</u>
Total Aggregate Indebtedness	\$ 1,499,429
Computation of Basic Net Capital Requirement:	
Minimum net capital required (6-2/3% of \$1,499,429)	\$ <u>99,962</u>
Minimum dollar net capital requirement	\$ <u>100,000</u>
Net capital requirement	\$ 100,000
Excess net capital (Note 12)	\$ <u>6,750,206</u>
Ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital (Note 12)	.22 to 1

The reconciliation of net capital as reported in the Company's December 31, 2004 Part III (audited) FOCUS Report has not been included in these financial statements as such amount is immaterial.



Certified Public Accountants

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### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL ACCOUNTING CONTROL REQUIRED BY SEC RULE 17a-5

Board of Directors and Shareholder Descap Securities, Inc.

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements and supplemental schedule of Descap Securities, Inc. for the period October 31, 2003 through December 31, 2004 we considered its internal control, including control activities for safeguarding securities, in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on internal control.

Also, as required by Rule 17a-5(g)(1) of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), we have made a study of the practices and procedures followed by Descap Securities, Inc. including tests of such practices and procedures that we considered relevant to the objectives stated in rule 17a-5(g) in making the periodic computations of aggregate indebtedness (or aggregate debits) and net capital under rule 17a-3(a)(11) and for determining compliance with the exemptive provisions of rule 15c3-3. Because the Company does not carry securities accounts for customers or perform custodial functions relating to customer securities, we did not review the practices and procedures followed by the Company in any of the following:

- 1. Making quarterly securities examinations, counts, verifications, and comparisons
- 2. Recordation of differences required by rule 17a-13
- 3. Complying with the requirements for prompt payment for securities under Section 8 of Federal Reserve Regulation T of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

The management of the Company is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal control and the practices and procedures referred to in the preceding paragraph. In fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgments by management are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of controls and of the practices and procedures referred to in the preceding paragraph and to assess whether those practices and procedures can be expected to achieve the SEC's above-mentioned objectives. Two of the objectives of internal control and the practices and procedures are to provide management with reasonable but not absolute assurance that assets for which the Company has responsibility are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition and that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly to permit the preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. Rule 17a-5(g) lists additional objectives of the practices and procedures listed in the preceding paragraph.

Because of inherent limitations in internal control or the practices and procedures referred to above, error or fraud may occur and not be detected. Also, projection of any evaluation of them to future periods is subject to the risk that they may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the effectiveness of their design and operation may deteriorate.



Certified Public Accountants

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL ACCOUNTING CONTROL REQUIRED BY SEC RULE 17a-5 (CONTINUED)

Our consideration of internal control would not necessarily disclose all matters in internal control that might be material weaknesses under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of the specific internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that error or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. However, we noted no matters involving internal control, including control activities for safeguarding securities, that we consider to be material weaknesses as defined above.

We understand that practices and procedures that accomplish the objectives referred to in the second paragraph of this report are considered by the SEC to be adequate for its purposes in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and related regulations, and that practices and procedures that do not accomplish such objectives in all material respects indicate a material inadequacy for such purposes. Based on this understanding and on our study, we believe that the Company's practices and procedures were adequate at September 30, 2003 to meet the SEC's objectives.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Directors, management, the SEC, and other regulatory agencies that rely on rule 17a-5(g) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 in their regulation of registered brokers and dealers, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

> Familier Lewis & novemen UP Kamler, Lewis & Noreman LLP

Great Neck, New York February 1, 2005